



IFW

PATENT
4359-0115PUS1

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hiroshi NAKANISH et al.
Appl. No.: 10/582,172
Filed: June 8, 2006
For: METHOD OF PRODUCING MICRO-LENS-CARRYING DISPLAY
PANEL AND DISPLAY UNIT AND EXPOSURE SYSTEM

LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Subsequent to the filing of the above-identified application on June 8, 2006, attached hereto is an English translation of the International Preliminary Examination Report (IPEA 409) which should be made of record in the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Date: September 20, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 

Charles Gorenstein

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Attachment: English Translation of IPER

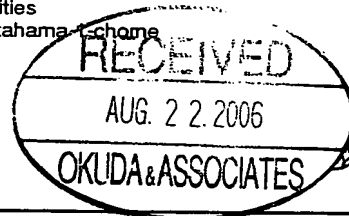
From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL
OF COPIES OF TRANSLATION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT
ON PATENTABILITY
(CHAPTER I OR CHAPTER II
OF THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY)
(PCT Rules 44bis.3(c) and 72.2)

To:

OKUDA, Seiji
Okuda & Associates
10th Floor, Osaka Securities
Exchange Bldg. 8-16, Kitahama-1-chome
Chuo-ku, Osaka-shi
Osaka 541-0041
JAPON



Date of mailing (day/month/year) 03 August 2006 (03.08.2006)	
Applicant's or agent's file reference 04R00909-WO A 408754	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION
International application No. PCT/JP2004/018262	International filing date (day/month/year) 08 December 2004 (08.12.2004)
Applicant SHARP KABUSHIKI KAISHA et al	

1. Transmittal of the translation to the applicant.



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I).



The International Bureau transmits herewith a copy of the English translation of the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

2. Transmittal of the copy of the translation to the designated or elected Offices.

The International Bureau notifies the applicant that copies of that translation have been transmitted to the following designated or elected Offices requiring such translation:

None

The following designated or elected Offices, having waived the requirement for such a transmittal at this time, will receive copies of that translation from the International Bureau only upon their request:

AE, AG, AL, AM, AP, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EA, EC, EE, EG, EP, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OA, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW

3. Reminder regarding translation into (one of) the official language(s) of the elected Office(s).

The applicant is reminded that, where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter II).

It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned within the applicable time limit (Rule 74.1). See Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide for further details.

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Authorized officer Masashi Honda
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter I of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 44bis)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 04R00909-WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See item 4 below
International application No. PCT/JP2004/018262	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 08 December 2004 (08.12.2004)	Priority date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 09 December 2003 (09.12.2003)
International Patent Classification (8th edition unless older edition indicated) See relevant information in Form PCT/ISA/237		
Applicant SHARP KABUSHIKI KAISHA		

1.	This international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) is issued by the International Bureau on behalf of the International Searching Authority under Rule 44 <i>bis</i> .1(a).																								
2.	This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet. In the attached sheets, any reference to the written opinion of the International Searching Authority should be read as a reference to the international preliminary report on patentability (Chapter I) instead.																								
3.	<p>This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 30%;">Box No. I</td> <td style="width: 60%;">Basis of the report</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. II</td> <td>Priority</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. III</td> <td>Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. IV</td> <td>Lack of unity of invention</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. V</td> <td>Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VI</td> <td>Certain documents cited</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VII</td> <td>Certain defects in the international application</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td>Box No. VIII</td> <td>Certain observations on the international application</td> </tr> </table>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application	<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application
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<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application																							
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application																							
4.	The International Bureau will communicate this report to designated Offices in accordance with Rules 44bis.3(c) and 93bis.1 but not, except where the applicant makes an express request under Article 23(2), before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date (Rule 44bis .2).																								

Date of issuance of this report 27 July 2006 (27.07.2006)	Authorized officer Masashi Honda
e-mail: pt08@wipo.int	

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	Facsimile No. +41 22 338 82 70
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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

TRANSLATION

PCT

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

Date of mailing
(day/month/year)

Applicant's or agent's file reference
04R00909-WO

FOR FURTHER ACTION

See paragraph 2 below

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/018262

International filing date (day/month/year)

08.12.2004

Priority date (day/month/year)

09.12.2003

International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC

Applicant

SHARP KABUSHIKI KAISHA

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- ☒ Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- ☒ Box No. II Priority
- ☐ Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- ☒ Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- ☒ Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- ☐ Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- ☐ Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- ☐ Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. **FURTHER ACTION**

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/018262

Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐

This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language

_____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).

2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:

a. type of material

☐

a sequence listing

☐

table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

☐

in written format

☐

in computer readable form

c. time of filing/furnishing

☐

contained in the international application as filed.

☐

filed together with the international application in computer readable form.

☐

furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.

3. ☐ In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

4. Additional comments:

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/018262

Box No. II

Priority

1. ☐ The following document has not yet been furnished:

☐ copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43bis.1 and 66.7(a)).

☐ translation of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed (Rule 43bis.1 and 66.7(b)).

Consequently it has not been possible to consider the validity of the priority claim. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date in the claimed priority date.

2. ☐ This opinion has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rules 43bis.1 and 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this opinion, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.

3. Additional observations, if necessary:

The subject matters of claims 19-27 are disclosed neither in the description of Application Number (2003) 410735 nor in the prior application on the basis of which priority is claimed, nor in the claims and drawings. Therefore, with regard to the subject matters of claims 19-27, the date of application (29.11.2004) for Application Number (2004) 344493 - the application on the basis of which priority is claimed - is used as reference date.

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/018262

Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention

1. ☐ In response to the invitation (Form PCT/ISA/206) to pay additional fees the applicant has:
- ☐ paid additional fees
 - ☐ paid additional fees under protest
 - ☐ not paid additional fees
2. ☒ This Authority found that the requirement of unity of invention is not complied with and chose not to invite the applicant to pay additional fees.
3. This Authority considers that the requirement of unity of invention in accordance with Rules 13.1, 13.2 and 13.3 is
- ☐ complied with
 - ☒ not complied with for the following reasons:

The subject matters of claims 1-18 assert that the method of producing micro lens wherein a photo-curing material layer is exposed to light that has been passed through pels constitutes a special technical feature, while the subject matters of claims 19-27 assert that a photolithography machine capable of altering the angle of incidence of light constitutes a special technical feature.

Since there is no technical relationship among these inventions involving one or more of the same or corresponding special technical features, they cannot be regarded as a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept.

4. Consequently, this opinion has been established in respect of the following parts of the international application:

☒ all parts

☐ the parts relating to claims Nos. _____

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/018262

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-18	YES
	Claims	19, 21	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-18	YES
	Claims	19-27	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-27	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Document 1: JP, 2004-170628, A (Sharp Corporation), 17 June, 2004 (17.06.04), paragraphs [0051]-[0057], Fig. 2

Document 2: JP, 2002-117756, A (FUJITSU LIMITED), 19 April, 2002 (19.04.02), paragraphs [0022] and [0023], [0026], Fig. 2

Document 3: JP, 9-43427, A (DAINIPPON PRINTING CO., LTD.), 14 February, 1997 (14.02.97), paragraphs [0014]-[0016], Figs. 3-5

The subject matters of claims 1-18 appear to be novel and also involve an inventive step in view of document 1 cited in the ISR.

Document 3 describes that the lenticular part is formed by coating the color filter with a resin sensitive to light and controlling, among other things, the light exposure method and the irradiation level. However, document 3 neither describes nor suggests that a photo-curing material is hardened by passing light through pels, including a specific color light in the color filter.

The subject matters of claims 19-24 and 27 do not appear to be novel in view of document 1 cited in the ISR.

Document 1 describes that in the step for forming the micro lens through exposure to photosensitive resin, parallel light is illuminated on the micro lens substrate mounted on a double axial rotating stage. Further, document 1 describes that three-dimensional patterns can be formed as desired by altering the angle of incidence of the parallel light by rotating the rotating stage and controlling the angle of incidence and the angle of the incoming radiation.

The subject matters of claims 19 and 25-26 do not appear to be novel in view of document 2 cited in the ISR.

Document 2 describes that in the step of exposing the photosensitive material layer to light above the substrate, the said layer is illuminated from two different oblique directions via a photo mask.

Ways of illuminating the photosensitive material layer from an oblique direction other than tilting the substrate are also described, including tilting the light source and photorefractive means using a mirror or the like.